Dear parents and carers,

We’ve had a wonderful start to our second week of kindergarten! The children are beginning to settle into the classroom routine and are becoming more confident and comfortable in their new environment. It’s been such a joy to see their smiling faces and growing friendships!

Let’s Explore

This week we have been learning the

* school tour
* Emotions

Mathematics

This week we have been learning the

* Finger counting
* Numbers identification

Communication and Language

Elemental phonics [ a, e]

If you’re happy and you know it [song]

Movie time

Recreation:

* movie time
* karate
* dance

Regards,

Head Coordinator

**Ms. Tabassum**

Dear parents and carers,

Block 1, Week 2

Let’s Explore

This week, we have been looking at what makes your child ‘me’. We have talked about their feelings and how to express them, as well as sharing their favourite toys with their classmates. We also looked at our faces and made a self-portrait which your child will have brought home with them
to show you.

You can support your child’s learning by:

* talking to your child about their self-portrait and why they have chosen to draw themselves
in a certain way. What is their self-portrait showing them as feeling? Have regular check-ins
with your child to give them the opportunity to express their feelings.
* encouraging your child to share things that are important or special to them with friends, siblings or other family members, as well as reminding them how to play nicely with things
that are shared with them.
* reading picture books together and commenting on the characters and how they feel.

Mathematics

This week we have been building on last week by learning the numbers from one to ten.

You can support your child’s learning by:

* practising the number rhyme Ten Spiders with your child. A copy of the number rhyme
is enclosed with this letter.

Communication and Language

This week, we have been exploring our senses and things we can see, hear, taste, smell and touch. We have been listening to a non-fiction text Our Senses and exploring new words around the theme of our senses using flashcards.

You can support your child’s learning by:

* talking about materials and textures at home and using new vocabulary to describe them such as *soft, hard, smooth*
* encouraging your child to identify smells and things of interest in the garden or at the park.

Coming up! Block 1, Week 3

A special request for next week:

Please send your child in with a photocopy or print out of them as a baby for class discussion.

Many thanks!

Dear parents and carers,

Block 1, Week 3

Let’s Explore

This week, we have been looking at our bodies and how to take care of them. We talked about body parts and how our bodies grow, as well as exploring movement and how we feel when we move.
We also looked at washing our hands and the importance of keeping clean.

You can support your child’s learning by:

* engaging in active play/sports with your child, encouraging them to be aware of their bodies
and its needs. Encourage them to explore new movements and activities.
* reinforcing healthy habits such as hand washing, eating a balanced diet and getting a good night’s sleep.
* setting up a growing chart at home:
* Set up a grow chart in a place where you can keep it up (this is if you haven’t done
it already). Include other children in the family.
* Measure your child’s height and write the date.
* Measure your child every couple of months and write the results so that you can track how
your child has grown.

Mathematics

This week we have been continuing to practise saying numbers one to ten in order.

You can support your child’s learning by:

* practising the number rhyme Once I Caught a Fish Alive with your child. A copy of the number rhyme is enclosed with this letter.

Communication and Language

This week, we have continued our exploration of the senses by collecting items from outside and recording what they look and feel like as well as identifying sounds that we can hear inside and outside of the school building.

You can support your child’s learning by:

* completing Activity sheet 1.1.2.1 *My sensory journey to school*. A copy of the worksheet
is enclosed with this letter.
* helping your child to record and draw the items recorded on the *My sensory journey to school* Activity sheet and bring it in to school the next day. A copy of the worksheet is enclosed with
this letter.

Coming up! Block 1, Week 4

Many thanks!

Dear parents and carers,

Block 1, Week 4

Let’s Explore

This week, we have looked at our clothes and how to dress ourselves. We talked about different clothes and their colours and textures, as well as looking at how the weather affects the clothes
we wear. We also dressed up and role-played after hearing a story about a spacesuit!

You can support your child’s learning by:

* allowing your child to practise dressing themselves independently at home, especially doing
up buttons and zips, and putting on shoes.
* encouraging your child to act out their favourite story using dressing up clothes or props from around the house.
* supporting your child to make the appropriate clothing choices when going outside depending on the weather.

Mathematics

This week we have been learning to touch count objects up to five.

You can support your child’s learning by:

* encouraging your child to count up to five objects they see, for example, *How many plates are on the table?*
* asking your child to show you how to count up to five objects by touching each object once and only once.

Communication and Language

This week, we have been building on our knowledge of colours, emotions and descriptive language. We have listened to a fictional text called The Rainbow Elephant and have been singing along to
a song about the colours of the rainbow.

You can support your child’s learning by:

* talking with your child about colours in your home and in nature when out for a walk.
* listening to and singing songs about colours with your child. A copy of The Rainbow Song
is enclosed with this letter.
* making a rainbow picture with your child of their favourite animal or toy from home and encouraging them to colour it in using as many colours as they can!

Coming up! Block 1, Week 5

A special request for next week:

Please send your child in with a photocopy or print out of pictures of them with friends/family,
and at a family celebration, and also a family object that is significant to the child and your family (but not breakable and not too precious). This could be an old blanket, a souvenir from a trip
or special occasion, a favourite spoon or cup, a picture book that parents read when they were
little, an old toy from parents, a traditional hat, a musical instrument, etc.

Please send your child in with their rainbow pictures that they have made at home.

Many thanks!Dear parents and carers,

Block 1, Week 5

Let’s Explore

This week, we talked about family and family treasures, as well as friends and how we behave
with friends.

You can support your child’s learning by:

* looking at old photographs with your child and talk about your family, culture, religion and traditions.
* reinforcing good behaviour and encouraging sharing wherever possible
* looking at and talking about family treasures, telling your child any stories associated with them.

**Mathematics**

This week we have been continuing to practise counting up to five objects.

You can support your child’s learning by:

* helping your child to put up to five (safe and non-precious) items into a container to bring in
and add to our Counting corner.

**Communication and Language**

This week, we have been revisited the story of The Rainbow Elephant and been learning more
about our emotions.

You can support your child’s learning by:

* continuing to explore the concept of emotions with your child at home and talking with them about how to react if their classmates are feeling sad, angry or scared, for example
* taking a photo of your child when they are showing different emotions, e.g., *happy*, *excited*, *calm*, etc.
* showing your child the photo and talking about what they see and feel.

Coming up! Block 2, Week 1

A special request for next week:

Please send your child in with one of their teddy bears or similar soft toy.

Many thanks!

Dear parents and carers,

Block 2, Week 1

Let’s Explore

In our new unit, we will be exploring all five senses. This week we’ve been focusing on listening to and imitating the sounds around us. We’ve used our bodies and different objects to make all sorts of loud and soft noises. We’ve danced and painted to music and sung songs with matching movements.

You can support your children’s learning by:

* going for ‘listening walks’ in your home or outdoors with your child. What do you hear?
* making music with your child! Drum on pots and pans, tap household objects or just sing, making your music fast and slow, strong and soft.
* going on a bear hunt with your child! Read the book together or look online for a different retelling of the story.

Mathematics

This week we have been learning to recognise quantities to five without counting. We have also been learning that things do not have to be touched to be counted.

You can support your child’s learning by:

* using Dot pattern cards to tell your child how many objects to collect or actions to do, for example, saying *Can you do this many jumps?* and holding up a dot card. A copy of a set
of 1 to 5 Dot pattern cards is enclosed with this letter.

Communication and Language

This week, we have been learning a new rhyme *Teddy Bear, Teddy Bear* and joining in with the actions. We have also practised using the new words we have been learning and talked about
a special toy or teddy at home.

You can support your child’s learning by:

* sharing pictures with your child of them as a baby, if you have any, and talk about a favourite teddy bear or baby toy they had.
* listening to and joining in with simple action rhymes with your child. A copy of *Teddy Bear,
Teddy Bear* is enclosed with this letter.
* encouraging your child to point out soft toys or teddy bears that they see out in public
or at the shops.

Coming up! Block 2, Week 2

A special request for next week:

Do you or someone in your family play a musical instrument? Would you be willing to visit
our class and give a short demonstration? We would be so appreciative!

Please contact me so we can chat about it and set a date and time.

Many thanks!

Dear parents and carers,

Block 2, Week 2

Let’s Explore

This week, we extended our exploration of sound by focusing on music. We experimented with making interesting and funny sounds with our tongues and lips, and had live musical performances, performing music and dance for each other, as well as by a visitor!

You can support your child’s learning by:

* singing their favourite songs and getting creative! Use silly voices. Sing very slowly, then
very fast.
* making sounds with household objects and dancing to the beat.
* talking to your child about your favourite songs and music or instruments and asking them
about theirs.
* showing your child various digital devices you might have at home and allowing them to explore these by recording themselves performing on them, or just by looking at videos.

Mathematics

This week we have been learning to recognise zero as none or nothing.

You can support your child’s learning by:

* asking your child to find an example of something in your home that has nothing in it, or that
is empty (for example, an empty bag of oranges when the last one has been taken so there
are zero oranges in the bag).

Communication and Language

This week, we have been enjoying a picture book with repetitive phrasing about building a den!
We have also been collecting items we could use to build a den and playing a ‘Build a Den’ game.

You can support your child’s learning by:

* playing simple games at home with them and incorporating repetitive words and phrases.
* encouraging your child to show you the ‘Build a Den*’* game they made and talking about
it with them.
* helping your child to build a simple den at home using the story as their guide.
A copy of Our Den is enclosed with this letter.

Coming up! Block 2, Week 3

A special request for next week:

Please help your child choose something with stripes to bring or wear to school on [date].
If nothing with stripes is easily found, you and your child can make a picture with stripes or decorate a box with stripes, using crayons, strips of coloured paper or tape.

Many thanks!

Dear parents and carers,

Block 2, Week 3

Let’s Explore

This week, we have been exploring the sense of sight. We have gone on a colour walk to find and photograph objects of a specific colour, and we have examined a famous painting by the artist Wassily Kandinsky with coloured circles of different sizes. We have also explored stripes in the world
around us.

You can support your child’s learning by:

* matching socks together with your child. Finding the matching pairs requires looking closely
and noticing details, especially colours.
* playing guessing games with colour clues. Look around you and choose something that is a solid colour *I spy something brown. Guess what it is.* You can play this game indoors or outdoors.
* talking about your favourite colours with your child. Do you and your child have the same favourite colour or different ones? What colour do other family members like best?
* getting crafty using various types of tools and materials such as sticks, potato stamps, paints, etc. to make your own colour collages at home.
* talking about the tactile qualities of things around the house and outside such as clothes,
or trees and grass.

Mathematics

This week we have been learning that numbers can be represented as numerals (symbols,
such as 0, 1, 2, 3 and so on).

You can support your child’s learning by:

* asking your child to point out where they can see number symbols in and around the home.

Communication and Language

This week, we have been revisiting the story *Our Den* and having a go at some different character voices. We have also been exploring different types of books and having a go at mark-making
in our dens!

You can support your child’s learning by:

* sharing books with your child in cosy spaces or their own ‘reading den’ at home
* reading with your child and adopting different voices for the different characters in a story
* providing mark-making and writing opportunities at home, e.g.,We are going to the market.
Can you write what we need for me, please?

Coming up! Block 2, Week 4

Next week, children will be learning to identify objects by their sense of touch.

Among other objects, children will be feeling the outsides of fruits with different textures,
such as kiwi, pineapple and coconut. After these touch experiences, we will be enjoying the fruit
as snacks, so please let me know if your child has sensitivities to any fruits.

Many thanks!

Dear parents and carers,

Block 2, Week 4

Let’s Explore

This week, we have been touching objects and talking about how they feel. We have explored different textures in the classroom and outside, as well as starting to use lots of new words to describe how things feel, such as *soft, hard, smooth, rough, prickly, bumpy, fuzzy, squishy.*

You can support your child’s learning by:

* helping them to choose a favourite soft object. Is it a pillow? A toy? A blanket? Is it silky or fuzzy? Discuss the features of it with them, reminding them of the words they learnt in class.
* talking with your child about your favourite soft object. Share it with your child. What other words describe the way it feels?
* putting a familiar object in a pillowcase or bag. Can your child reach in and identify the object using only the sense of touch? Reverse roles and let your child put a mystery object in the pillowcase for you to identify!
* talking about fruits being edible parts of plants, as well as their different textures inside
and out when you are eating them or out shopping.
* singing and adapting lyrics to songs that you hear at home, encouraging your child to join in!

Mathematics

This week we have been learning that a numeral (symbols, such as 0, 1, 2, 3 and so on) can simply
be a label and does not need to refer to a quantity (for example, on a sport shirt).

You can support your child’s learning by:

* encouraging your child to look out for items with numbers around the home. If possible,
help your child to draw or photograph one or more of the items, and then bring their pictures
or photographs into school.

Communication and Language

This week, we have been reading an engaging picture book around the theme of making friends.
The children have been following how the intonation of the reader matches the illustrations
and retelling the story using puppets and some words from the story, including character names.
We have also been exploring the concept of body language.

You can support your child by:

* asking your child to draw Meesha and Josh at home and encouraging them to talk about
the story. A copy of the story Meesha Makes Friends is enclosed with this letter.
* pointing out pictures and words as different features when you are reading with them.
* practising giving your child a simple instruction, e.g., please pass me your plate, etc.

Coming up! Block 2, Week 5

Next week, children will be sniffing and tasting! Please let us know if your child has sensitivities
to any spices, herbs or fruits.

Many thanks!Dear parents and carers,

Block 2 Week 5

Let’s Explore

This week, we have been using our noses to smell and our mouths to taste. We have discovered
and discussed nice smells indoors and outdoors, we have used our senses to identify juices and fruit, and we have sampled a number of yummy fruits and assembled our own personalised fruit kebabs.

You can support your child’s learning by:

* visiting some places where there are different smells, for example, a park with flowers and newly mowed grass, or a bakery. Enjoy!
* inviting your child to be a helper when you are preparing food reminding them to wash their hands before and after preparing anything. Sing the *Washing Hands* chant with them as they
do this. For example, perhaps your child can add spices you have measured out.
* talking about foods that keep us well, like fruit, when preparing meals or choosing a snack.
* going on a nature walk with your child and encouraging them to notice different plants and trees, and how they look and smell.

Mathematics

This week we have been beginning to learn about ordinal numbers including first, second and third.

You can support your child’s learning by:

* watching a race together with your child (for example, car racing or an athletics event) then talking about who or what was first, second and third in the race and how your child knows.

Communication and Language

This week, we have been revisiting the story Meesha Makes Friends and exploring descriptions
and settings within the story. We have also been getting creative and making our own model ‘friends’ – just like Meesha did.

You can support your child’s learning by:

* asking your child to have a go at drawing a picture of themselves and help them to write
a description of themselves.
* describing a character in a story you may be reading with them at home.

Coming up! Block 3, Week 1

Many thanks!